

Reduce mosquito breeding areas around your home

You can help reduce the risk of West Nile Virus. Eliminate stagnant water where mosquitoes lay their eggs. Mosquito larvae can develop in water that has been standing for more than four days. Follow these tips around your home.

Keep your yard clean

- remove discarded tire and clean up junk piles that collect water
- cover containers or use lids to prevent water from collecting in the bottom of garbage cans
- use screen or fine mesh to cover rain barrel
- clean pet food and water bowls and store indoors when not in use



Clean out eaves, gutters and drains

- clear leaves, twigs and debris from eavestroughs, storm and roof gutters throughout the summer
- make sure drainage ditch is not clogged
- check flat roofs frequently for standing water



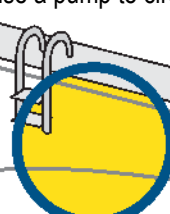
Maintain yards and lawns

- fill in low depressions in lawn areas
- eliminate standing water in gutters or storm drains to prevent small ponds
- install screens over catch basins
- grass clippings, leaves or other decaying debris such as apples or berries that fall from trees should be mulched to prevent organic matter from going into catch basins or storm sewers as food source for mosquito larvae
- turn over compost frequently



Always inspect swimming or wading pools and ponds

- remove water that collects on pool covers
- make sure the pool's pump is circulating water
- turn over wading pools when not in use
- use a pump to circulate water in your pond



Eliminate stagnant water

- clean up and empty water in toys, birdbaths, tires, flowerpots, wheelbarrows and other garden objects
- drill holes in the bottoms of containers so water can't collect
- change water in birdbath frequently



Fix faucets and hoses

- repair any leaks to faucets and hoses to prevent possible breeding sites
- prevent water from pooling around downspouts and air conditioners



Repair window screens and screen doors

- check window and door screens and repair any holes
- ensure screens fit tightly into to window or door frames to prevent mosquitoes from getting inside
- if you don't have screens, try and keep windows closed between dusk and dawn
- install screens on crawl spaces and attic vents

For any questions or concerns, please call Windcrest City Hall at 655-0022.